

ARGUMENTS

Previously presented independent claim 1 and dependent claims 2 to 5 remain in this application. These claims have been rejected in view of Paul and Rogers.

Claim 1 is directed to a hold down clip having a downwardly biased hinge connecting the legs and arms of the clip. The clip is integrally formed of synthetic resin, in one piece.

Dependent claims 2 through 5 include the limitations of claim 1.

Paul discloses a clip made of metal, with a cut-out section in the sides of the clip. The sides of this clip, including the cut-out portions, bend in an arc when used to secure ceiling tile. Such a bent side is not a hinge as disclosed in the subject application, where the hinge acts as a pivot between a relatively rigid arm and a rigid leg of the clip.

The plastic clip of Rogers also has no hinge as presently claimed.

Even if Paul and Rogers are combined, the combination would not have a hinge, as claimed in the present application.

In summary, the claims of the present invention define a one-piece plastic hold-down clip, with a hinge formed of plastic, biased downwardly, between upper plastic arms and lower plastic legs. Neither Paul nor Rogers has such a hinge, and even if combined, would not teach the present invention as claimed.

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Response dated July 29, 2005

Reply to Office Actions of June 13 and July 25, 2005

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application, and early allowance of the the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

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